

COMPUTER-IMPLEMENTED PATENT PORTFOLIO ANALYSIS **METHOD AND APPARATUS**

Abstract of the Invention

A computer-implemented apparatus and method for performing patent portfolio analysis. The patent portfolio analysis apparatus and method clusters a group of patents based upon one or more techniques. The clustering techniques include linguistic clustering techniques (e.g., eigenvector analysis), claim meaning, and patent classification techniques. Different aspects of the clusters are analyzed, including financial, claim breadth, and assignee patent comparisons. Moreover, patents and/or their clusters are linked to the Internet in order to determine what products might be covered by the claims of the patents or whether materials on the Internet might render patent claims invalid.